

Teens and Technology 2012

Using READ™ Design Studio to create dynamic programming and marketing materials



Tutorial #5 Gimp Basics Two

Contents	Page #
Refining the Outlines of an Image	2-4
Refining Hair in an Image	5-6
Cleaning up Hard Edges	7-9
Removing Imperfections in an Image	10
Red Eye	10
Removing Blemishes on the Skin	11-12
Slimming an Image and Unwanted Bumps	13-14
Deleting Layers	15
Saving an Image in Editable Format	16-17

Created by Idaho
Commission for Libraries



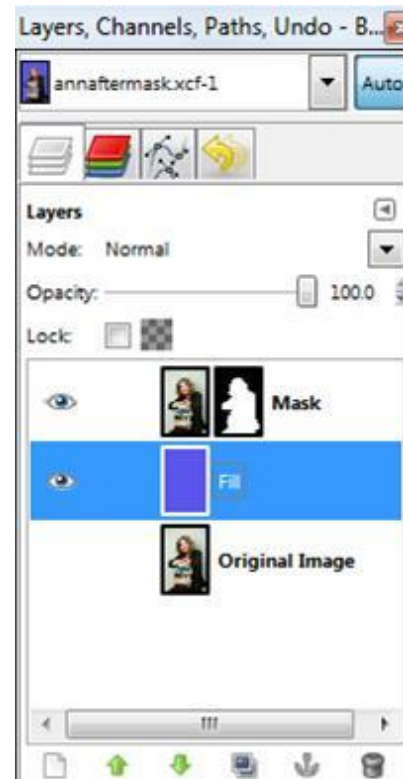
This project funded by the Institute of Museum and
Library Services 2011

GIMP Basics Two

Refining the Outlines of an Image

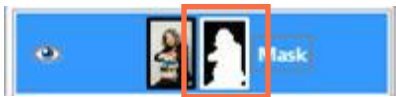
This tutorial covers how to use GIMP tools to clean up the image that you masked in tutorial #4 and get it ready to place into a READ poster background. A high quality image is the best way to ensure a quality product.

Your image should look something like this and have the similar layers to the screen shot on the right:



Step 1: Select the **Mask** layer.

Step 2: Click once on the masked image to the right. It will be outlined in white to show that it is selected.



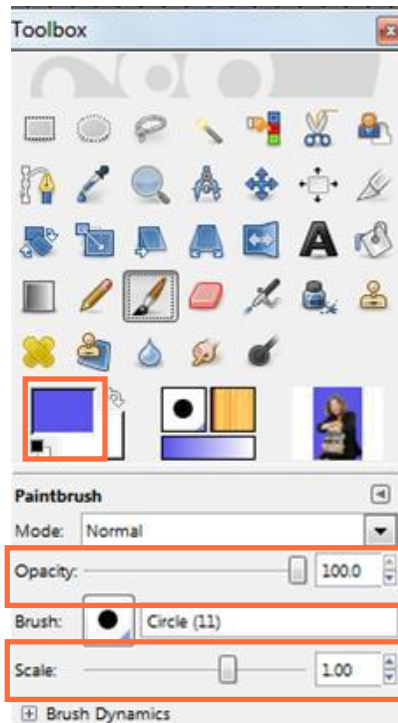
Step 3: Select the **Paintbrush** tool in the toolbox.



Tip: The next part of the tutorial is more art than science. It will take practice to learn the various ways to clean up the edges of clothing and feather the hair. We are going to start with cleaning up the edges of the clothing first. You will need a solid brush style for this task and full opacity as explained below.

GIMP Basics Two

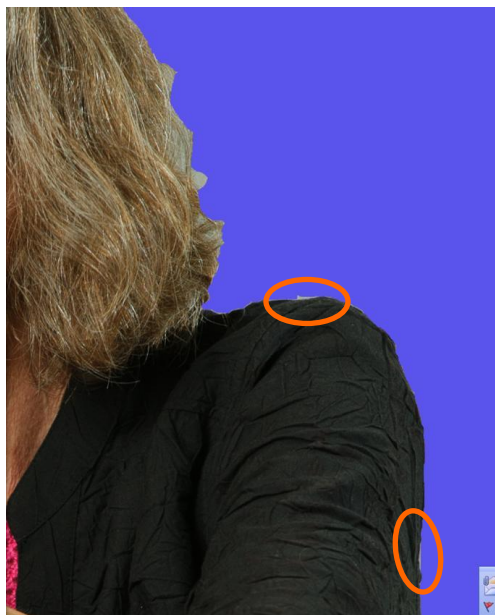
Step 4: Using the tool options dialog in the lower right hand corner, choose the size of brush that you need to work on the photo's edges and keep the opacity at 100%.



Step 5: Using the **Foreground and Background Color** box set the **brush color** to black. Note: The brush color will not turn to black, but will erase the line to show the background beneath it.

Step 6: Using the **Navigation** dialog, zoom into a section of the image that needs to be cleaned up.

Here I zoomed into a section of clothing that has gray edges still showing.



Original Image

Image with edges painted over

GIMP Basics Two

Step 7: Use the brush to paint out the edges of the clothing and other items that appear gray. You do not have to be absolutely exact here. (In fact, you can “iron out” rough edges and I have been known to slim down bits and pieces of images during this stage!)



Tip: Even though you are painting with a black brush, you will not see black on the image. The black works with the mask layer to HIDE parts of the images. If you remove something you didn’t want to remove, you can switch to a WHITE brush and it will make parts of the image VISIBLE. Working with black and white allows you to refine the image as you wish without actually deleting anything. Handy tool!



Tip: This step may take some time. Be patient and work with the various brush types and sizes to get the look you want. You will need to zoom in and out and move the image around during this stage of the process.



Tip: Holding down the **Shift Key** while you move your cursor over the screen will allow you to pan the image without losing your current tool.

GIMP Basics Two

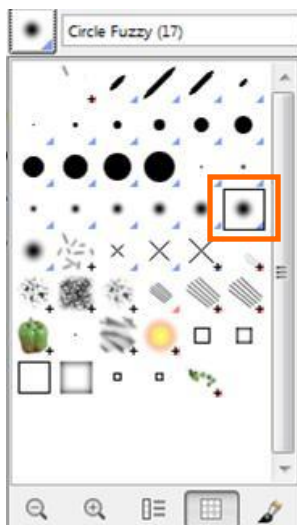
Refining Hair in an Image

Now let's work on the hair in your image. Often this is the most difficult area to clean up due to the fact that it isn't always a smooth edge. The basic steps remain the same, but we will use a different brush type and less opacity to get the look that we want.

Here I have zoomed to a section of hair that has the gray background showing through. We will go through the steps for refining this area now.

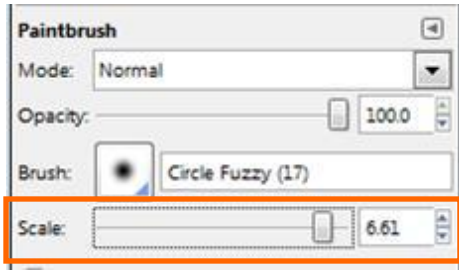


Step 1: Select the **Circle Fuzzy** paintbrush on the paintbrush dialog.

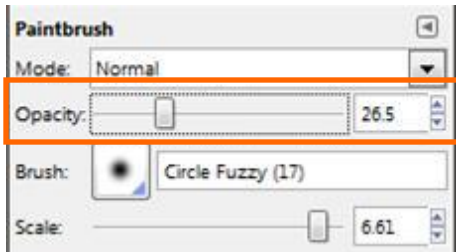


GIMP Basics Two

Step 2: Choose the size of brush you want. (Size 6.61 was used to work on the image below.)



Step 3: Change the opacity to approximately 25%.



Step 4: Using a combination of paint strokes and individual clicks, paint the edges of the hair and areas where the gray shows through. It will take some time and practice.



Tip: You may have to change the opacity and brush size for different areas of the hair. When you are done, you want the hair to look similar to the image below:

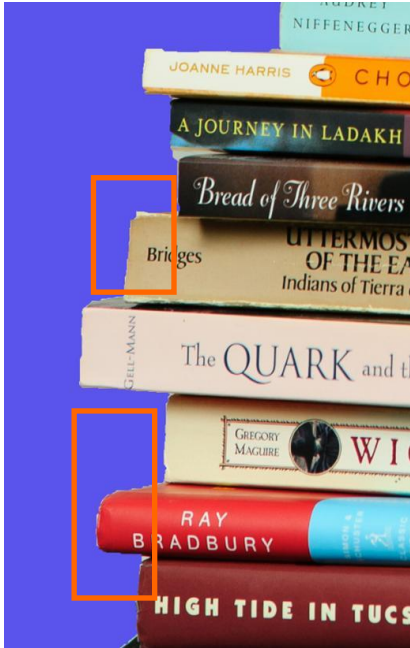


GIMP Basics Two

Cleaning Up Hard Edges

Sometimes you have hard edges – like those on a book – that need to be edited. Again, the steps are the same, but the tools may vary somewhat.

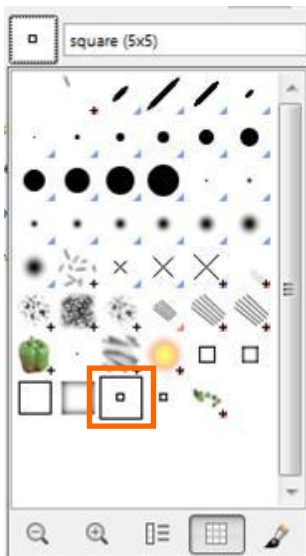
Here is a stack of books that need to be cleaned up in order for them to look realistic on a poster background.



Step 1: Select the **Mask** layer. Make sure the black/white image is selected. It will be outlined in white.

Step 2: Click Paintbrush tool in the toolbox.

Step 3: Select the **Square Brush** and make it as large as needed for your image.



Step 4: Place the square brush along the edge of a book and click to remove a line of the edge. You can also “paint” with the square brush and cover a longer line that needs cleaning up.

GIMP Basics Two

After cleaning up all the edges of the image, it should look something like this:



GIMP Basics Two

Removing Imperfections in an Image

We all know the frustration of snapping a photo only to find the dreaded red eye, or perhaps there is a blemish on your skin that you really would rather not show to the world. Don't worry! That is the main reason that programs like GIMP exist...To make us all look better. Let's take a few moments to learn a couple of miracle tools in GIMP that you will grow to love!

Red Eye

Step 1: Open GIMP.

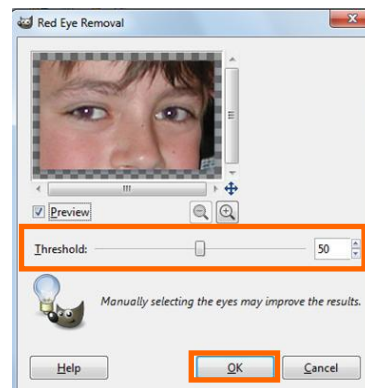
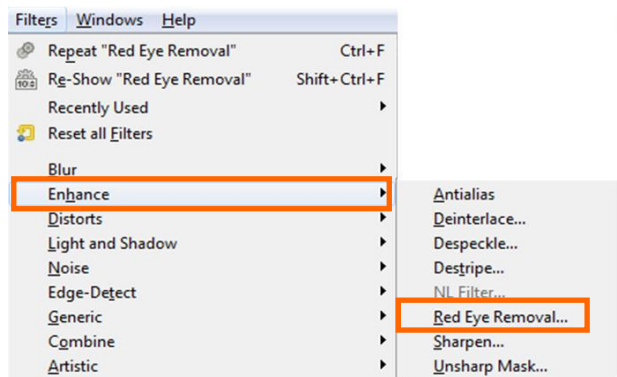
Step 2: Click **File > Open As Layers**.

Step 3: Navigate to your flash drive and locate the **GIMP Tutorials > Files for Tutorials** folder.

Step 4: Select the file named Red-Eye and click **Open**.



Step 5: Click **Filters > Enhance > Red Eye Removal**.



Tip: A new dialog box will open. You will note that the program automatically removes the red eye.



Tip: If the red eye is not completely removed you can move the **Threshold** slider slowly to the right. This increases the amount of “red” tone that is picked up by the program and replaces it with the color of the eye. If you go too far to the right you will start to see that the skin tones are being replaced too.

Step 6: Click **OK** when you are done fixing the red eye.

GIMP Basics Two

Removing Blemishes on the Skin

Another problem arises when you have a great photo...except for that pimple right in the middle of your forehead! Again when it comes to blemishes and wrinkles – GIMP to the rescue!

I will use one of my photos where wrinkles (and a double chin – but that’s another tool) are threatening to ruin an otherwise cute photo of some favorite Seuss characters!

Step 1: Open GIMP.

Step 2: Click **File > Open As Layers**.

Step 3: Navigate to your flash drive and locate the **GIMP Tutorials > Files for Tutorials** folder.

Step 4: Select the file named Wrinkly-Erica and click **Open**.

Step 5: Let’s zoom in a bit on the face (yikes!) and take a look.



Your best friend in GIMP for imperfections in the skin (or other places) is called **Healing Tool**. This is another tool that is more art than science. You will need to experiment a bit to master it, but once you do, you will be so happy that you did!

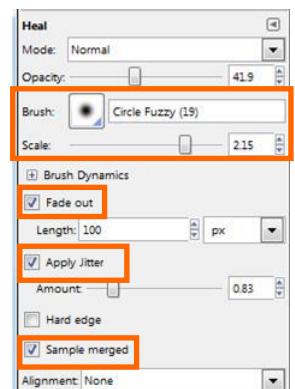
For these steps we are going to focus in on the eye area – where all those “smile lines” are showing.



Step 6: Click **Healing Tool** icon on the toolbar.

Step 7: Select the **Circle Fuzzy** Brush with a scale of approximately 20.

Step 8: Click **Fade Out**, **Apply Jitter**, and **Sample merged**. Leave the values at their defaults as seen here.



GIMP Basics Two



Tip: When you move the cursor out onto the image, it will change to a circle. If the circle looks too big, adjust it with the **Scale** slider.

Move to the area of the photo that needs to be worked on. In this case we are going to move to the eye area – just below the wrinkles.

Step 9: Hold the **CONTROL** key down and click in an area that does not have wrinkles.



Tip: Another circle is created where you clicked. This will remain stationary for the next steps.

Step 10: Click on the wrinkles above your stationary circle and see if you can see them change slightly.

Continue to click on the wrinkles and work to remove them.



Tip: You may have to **CONTROL** click again to re-select a new area of non wrinkly skin to get the best results.



Before



After!

Play with the various settings on the **Healing Tool** dropdown to see what results you get. Only with practice will you be able to smooth out those stubborn wrinkles and other blemishes.

GIMP Basics Two

Slimming an Image and Unwanted Bumps

Sometimes you just want to look a bit less bumpy in a photo. At least I know I do! There is even a tool for that!

Step 1: Click **File > Open As Layers**.

Step 2: Navigate to your flash drive and locate the **GIMP Tutorials > Files for Tutorials** folder.

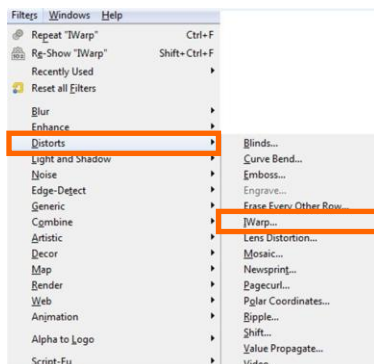
Step 3: Select the file named Bumpy-Erica and click **Open**.

Step 4: Let's zoom in a bit on the waist (another yikes!) and take a look.



We want to try and “shrink” the area to the left by moving it in to create more of a waist. This is done with the iWarp tool under Filters.

Step 5: Select **Filters > Distorts > iWarp**.

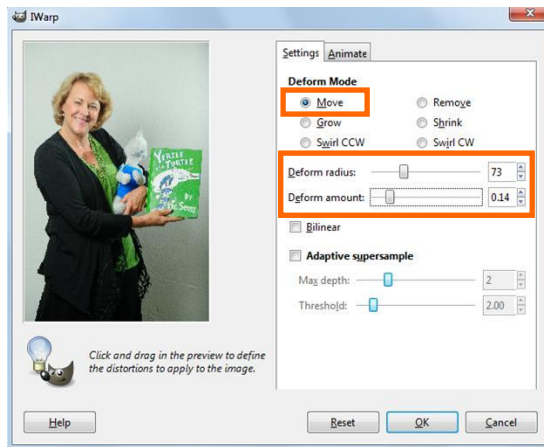


GIMP Basics Two



Tip: A new dialog box will open.

Step 6: Select **Move** and change the radius and deform amount to numbers similar to those below.



Step 7: In the dialog box left click near the waist area and drag in towards the middle of the body slowly. You will see the image distort.



Tip: Continue to click and drag inwards in different areas along the edge of the body. You should see a slimming of the overall area.

Step 8: Click Ok and watch the image transform in the large image window.



Tip: You can also go back into the iWarp dialog and use the Shrink command instead. This can be used for bulges!



Before

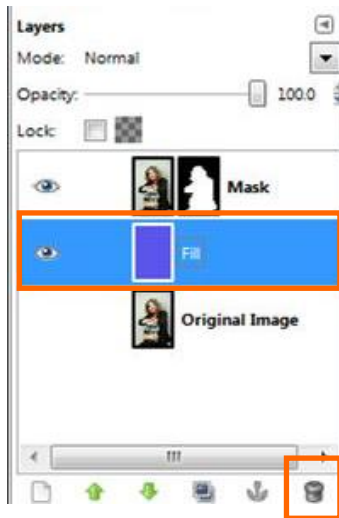
After!

GIMP Basics Two

Deleting Layers

To simplify working with the image in the future we are going to delete the layers we don't need.

Step 1: Click on the **Fill** layer and Click **Delete This Layer**.



Step 2: Repeat the same step with the **Original Image**.



The image will now have a checkered background and only one layer



You are ready to save the image.

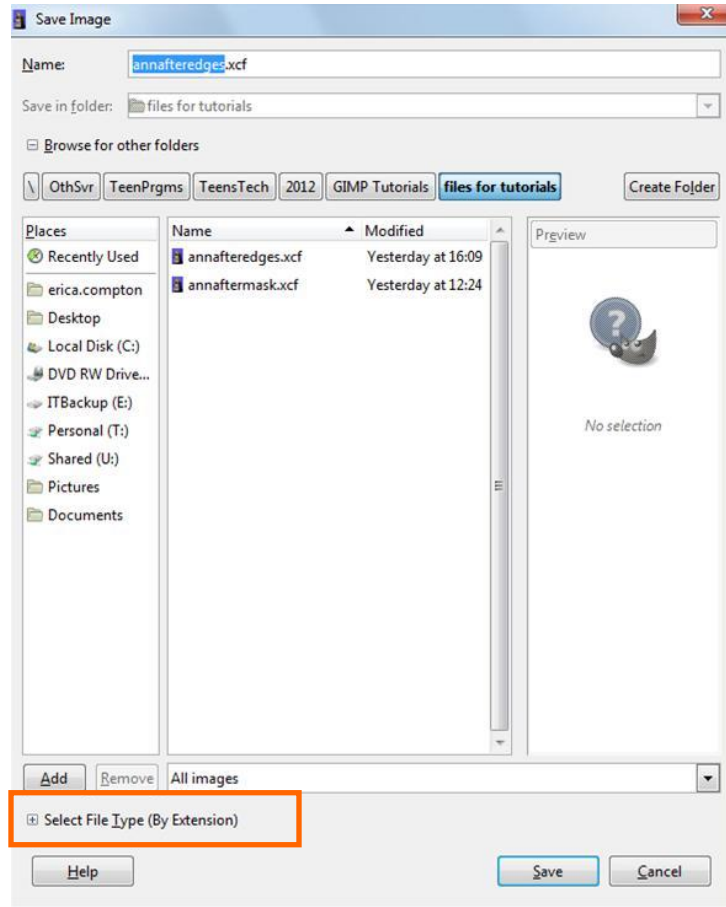
GIMP Basics Two

Saving an Image in Editable Format

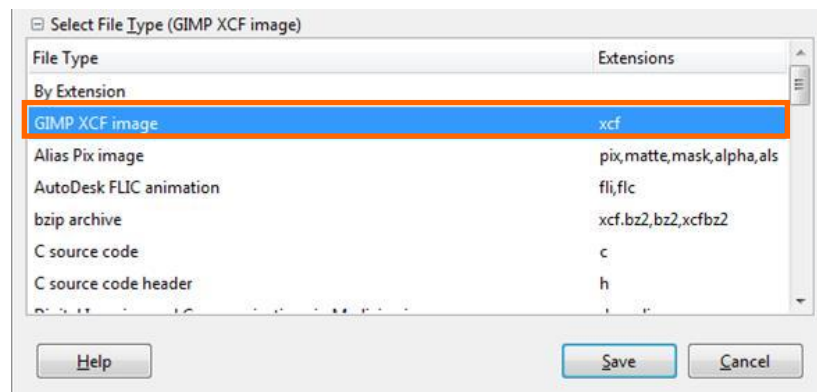


Tip: If you want to be able to edit your image again, it is important to save it in the correct file format. If you save it as a .jpg, .gif, or other image file, you will not be able to open it and work with the individual layers again. You need to save it in a format that GIMP will recognize as “editable.”

Step 1: Click **File > Save As**. A new dialog box opens:



Step 2: Click **Select File Type**. A drop down menu appears.



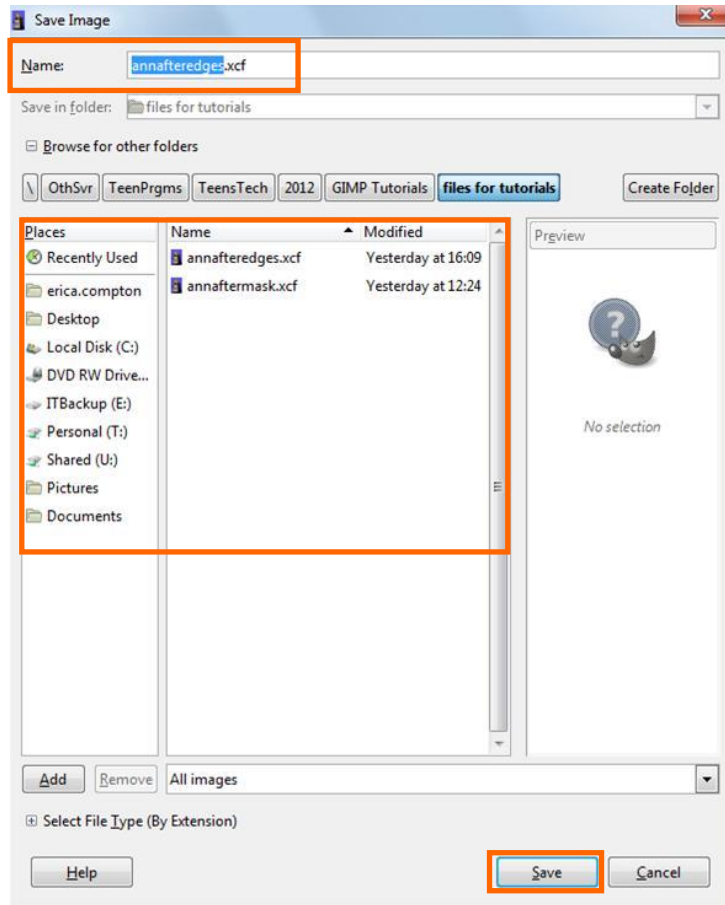
GIMP Basics Two

Step 3: Select **GIMP XCF image** extension.

Step 4: Rename the file.

Step 5: Navigate to the location to save the file.

Step 6: Click **SAVE**.



The file is saved in an editable format and is ready for you to place in a READ poster background.

Open the Tutorial #6 to learn how to place your photo into one of the READ poster files.